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REMARKS

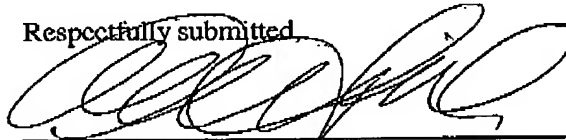
Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested. Claims 1-13 are currently pending and stand rejected. Applicant has amended claims 1, 2, 7-9, 12 and 13. Claims 6 and 11 have been cancelled. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicant has amended the claims to correct the informalities helpfully noted by the Examiner. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 6, 7, 11 and 12 contain allowable subject matter. Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 9 to recite the features in claims 6 and 11, respectively. Applicant has also amended claim 9 to obviate the potential double-patenting issue noted by the Examiner. Withdrawal of all rejections and allowance are respectfully requested.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. Applicant believes that no additional fees are necessary, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482 in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted




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Dated: May 7, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, (703) 872-9306, on May 7, 2004.

  
Beth A. Beard